

REMARKS

Claims 29, 30 and 32-39 are pending in this application. All pending claims stand rejected in view of prior art.

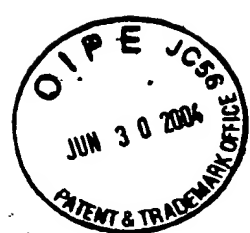
In ¶ 5 of the Office Action, claims 29-33, 35-37, and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,920,317 to McDonald in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,674,449 to Banks et al. As applied to cancelled claim 31, this ground of rejection is now moot. As applied to claims 29, 30, 32, 33, 35-37, and 39, the Applicants traverse this ground of rejection for the following reasons.

Amended independent claims 29 and 36 each recite that the display monitor is controlled to display a screen comprising a list of searchable parameters, each listed searchable parameter being associated with a respective toggle field and a respective fillable search criteria field, each toggle field having three possible states, any one of said three states being selectable by a user using the operator interface. A first toggle state indicates that the respective searchable parameter will be ignored during a search in a database; a second toggle state indicates that the respective searchable parameter will be employed as a search parameter during the search but that a retrieved value for that searchable parameter will not be displayed in a display of worklist search results; and a third toggle state indicates that the respective searchable parameter will be employed as a search parameter during the search and that a retrieved value for that searchable parameter will be

displayed in a display of worklist search results. Claims 29 and 36 further recite that a worklist search request message is formulated as a function of the search parameters having toggle fields in said second or third toggle state in response to input of a search command using the operator interface.

The foregoing claim limitations cannot be found in either McDonald or Banks. The Examiner has relied on the Banks patent as teaching fields that can be filled with worklist display format instructions. The utilities icon 226 includes two exemplary functions: an archive function and a protocols function. The archive function is used to store or retrieve images. The protocols function is used to modify data and image table. More specifically, default protocols and parameter values can be modified. The Banks patent is silent concerning means for selecting search parameters used to formulate the search and means for selecting which of the searched parameters will have their retrieved values displayed. Accordingly, the Applicants submit that claims 29 and 36 (and all claims dependent thereon) are not obvious over McDonald in view of Banks.

In ¶ 6 of the Office Action, claims 34 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McDonald in view of Banks, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,629 to Cooke. The Applicants traverse this ground of rejection. Since Cooke does not teach the elements recited in claims 29 and 36 that were missing from McDonald and Banks, claims 34 and 38 are patentable at least for the same reasons, set forth above,



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that claims 29 and 36 are patentable. The Cooke patent discloses an image archiving and communication system and contains no disclosure concerning retrieving a worklist and then selecting a patient from the retrieved worklist for attachment of patient information to each acquired image.

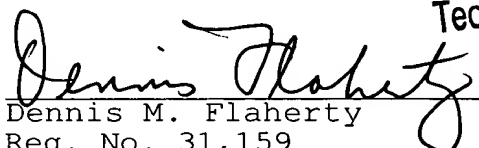
In view of the foregoing, the Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 29, 30 and 32-39 are hereby requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date

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The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

June 28, 2004

  
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